

REMARKS

The present amendment is made to replace the sequence listing as filed in the specification with the substitute sequence transmitted herewith pursuant to Notice to Comply with Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures dated August 17, 1998.

The Office takes the position that claims 5 to 7 are directed to specific amino acid sequences. Applicant respectfully points out that claims 5 to 7 refer to amino acid positions generic to immunoglobulins. At page 6, lines 12-20, the specification teaches:

More particularly, the present invention concerns mutant Ig domains and antibodies containing domains in which one or more of the following amino acids have been exchanged for other residues: threonine (thr) at position 252, threonine at position 254, threonine at position 256 (wherein the amino acids are numbered according to Kabat *et al.*, (1991)). To increase the half life of an Fc-hinge domain, or intact antibody, any of the above residues may be substituted for any other amino acid residue and then variants that have higher affinity for FcRn may be selected using bacteriophage display, for example, or by any other method known to those of skill in the art. Substitution can advantageously be achieved by any of the molecular biological techniques known to those of skill in the art, as exemplified herein below, or even by chemical modification.

Certain increased half-life antibodies or domains will be those which include one or more of the following substitutions on the Kabat numbering system, or their equivalents on different numbering systems: threonine (thr) 252 to leucine (leu) 252, threonine 254 to serine (ser) 254 threonine 256 to phenylalanine (phe) 256. An example as disclosed herein is the triple mutant termed LSF which contains the three mutations: threonine 252 to leucine 252, threonine 254 to serine 254 threonine 256 to phenylalanine 256.

Thus, the amino acids referred to in claims 5 to 7 do not conform to the sequence listing, but are generic positions as would be understood by one of ordinary skill in the art in light of the teachings of the specification.

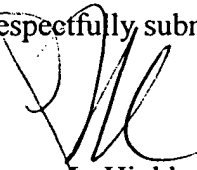
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However, the sequence listing has been amended to include sequences disclosed in the specification but not included in the originally filed sequence listing. No new matter is introduced by this amendment.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this matter, a telephone call to the undersigned Applicants' representative is earnestly solicited.

It is believed that no fee is due relating to this amendment; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Arnold, White & Durkee Deposit Account No. 01-2508/UTSD:483/HYL.

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